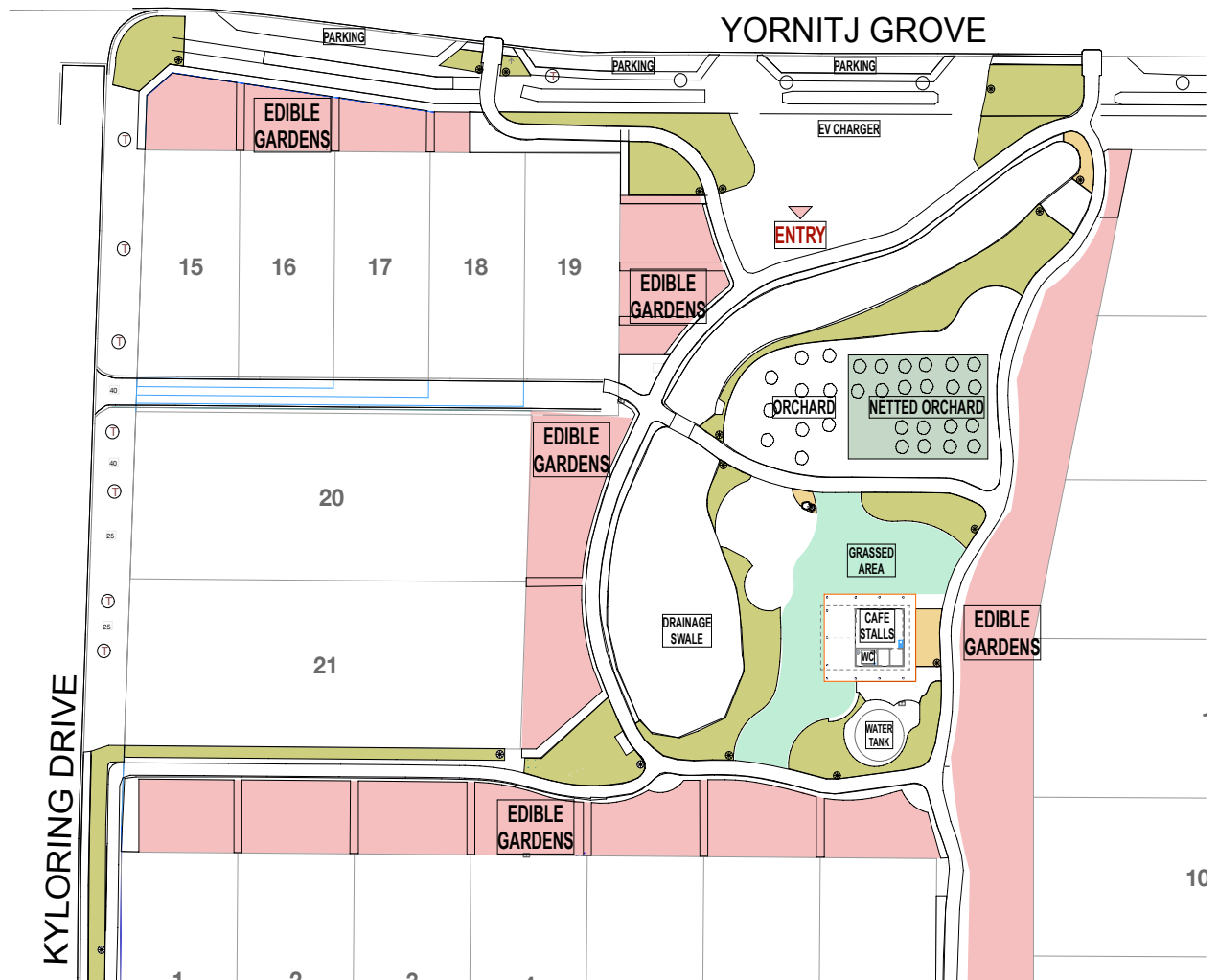


## GARDEN 8: WITCHCLIFFE ECOVILLAGE CLUSTER 1B



### **Witchcliffe Ecovillage Cluster 1B welcomes you!**

Here you will see a broad range of approaches and techniques to edible gardening at various stages of maturity. You can chat to the gardeners, join a tour if you like and there will be tea and coffee, cakes and plant stalls!

This neighbourhood which we call cluster is a group of 21 individual houses in a ring around a central parcel of land with shared orchards boasting 50-plus fruit and nut trees, a chicken run, stormwater swales, ornamental and native habitat gardens, and a community building to share (this you will find right in the centre surrounded by lawn - that's the general meeting spot, cafe, toilet and starting point for tours).

Additionally to the common spaces, each household has a private garden (please don't enter these) watered by their own rainwater tank plus an "exclusive use area" towards the centre of the cluster. These are veggie plots used for food growing. Here we have access to WEV dam water.

Feel free to walk around the circle of various veggie plots, notice the different styles and priorities. Please don't walk through veggie gardens (they are easily viewed from the concrete paths) and please don't pick any produce unless invited - but do feel free to corner any gardener and ask all the questions you like. Learn how the residents are overcoming challenges such as the "Witchy wind", rabbits, heavy clay soil, compaction, lack of organic matter and the overwhelm when starting a garden from scratch.

Some gardens are more established than others but none are older than a couple of years. People have employed many different methods and techniques – all organic – depending on their varying needs, abilities and tastes. No two gardens are the same.

Together we all aim for a lighter footprint on the earth, sustainability, connection to nature and country, health and enjoyment of good and tasty food.

We look after our common gardens communally led by a 'Garden Group' of volunteers and we share and pass on produce, seeds, seedlings, knowledge, tools and skills. We also have a lot of fun in gardening together as a group and we share meals regularly.

All this helps us building a resilient well-connected community!